

## **ISST 2-13-2004 Call Notes**

### **Team members present (P) and not present (NP):**

(P) Brad Colman (team leader) – WFO Seattle  
(P) Peter Manousos (backup team leader) – NCEP/HPC  
(P) Dan Baumgardt – WFO LaCrosse  
(P) Mark Jackson – WFO Salt Lake City  
(NP) Steve Keighton – WFO Blacksburg  
(P) Andy Patrick – WFO Corpus Christi  
(P) Eric Stevens – WFO Fairbanks  
(P) Bill Ward – PRHQ  
(P) Kevin Schrab (facilitator) – OST/PPD/PMB

### **2:00 – 2:45 pm EST: Verification plan.**

#### **Background**

Continued team discussion of prioritizing tasks/actions in the NVIWT Plan. The team will draft short briefing to present to Jack Hayes.

#### **Discussion**

The team discussed the idea of endorsing the formation of a National Verification Committee (or a group that would focus on verification of digital services). The team will draft a briefing for Jack Hayes on their recommendations on priorities related to the NVIWT Verification Plan. The team also plans to issue a Statement on the requirements for verification in the digital services era. This Statement will be coordinated through the Regions/NCEP over the next month.

### **2:45 – 3:05 pm EST: DGEX.**

#### **Background**

The 8-day Eta extension is now renamed the Downscaled GFS with Eta extension (DGEX). Update on current status.

#### **Discussion**

An announcement requesting volunteer WFOs from each Region to take part in an evaluation of the DGEX in March will be sent out in the next week. A short set of briefing slides will accompany the announcement. These slides will give more details of the DGEX test and implementation. Brad Colman will also brief the NWP PDS on DGEX plans during a conference call on 2/24/2004.

### **3:05 – 3:20 pm EST: ISST Forum.**

#### **Background**

Announcements have gone out. How will we organize the call?

#### **Discussion**

The announcement for the ISST Forum has been distributed to each Region/NCEP. The Forum will take place on 3/4/2004 from 2-3:30pm EST. Suggested agenda items are due from all invited parties by 3/23/2004. Watch for the agenda and supporting documents on the ISST webpage at: [http://www.nws.noaa.gov/ost/ifps\\_sst/isst\\_forum.html](http://www.nws.noaa.gov/ost/ifps_sst/isst_forum.html)

### **3:20 – 3:30 pm EST: GRIB2 vs. netCDF.**

#### Background

Questions have arisen about verification data from the current MDL gridded verification system being available in GRIB2 and whether it would be better to have the data in netCDF.

#### Discussion

All AWIPS model data will soon be sent in GRIB2 format. GRIB2 is a much more efficient transmission format. AWIPS can easily decode it into netCDF. So, as long as MDL's GRIB2 is compatible with AWIPS GRIB decoders, it should not be a problem that MDL uses GRIB2 format.

### **3:30 – 3:40 pm EST: 10-102.**

#### Background

ISST needs to develop a plan to review the verification data for the NDFD in consideration of the official designation. This is in the context of 10-102, which states: "For digital products/services, the IFPS Science Steering Team has reviewed available objective quality assessment data and provided a recommendation".

#### Discussion

This item was deferred.

### **3:40 – 4:00 pm EST: Round robin.**

#### Background

Team members' turn to bring up issues.

#### Discussion

Eric Stevens mentioned that AR has now been in IFPS operations for 1 month. Andy Patrick presented the ISST update at the IFPS Methodology Workshop at the NWSTC on 2/10/2004. He got good feedback on the team's activities. Dan Baumgardt mentioned that he has sent out a note to CR SOOs regarding the COOP MOS. A key point is that it builds climatology into the mid-range forecast grids. Brad Colman and Mark Jackson indicated a WR SOO conference call would occur on 2/19/2004. They will give an ISST update. Bill Ward mentioned that PR had a workshop to develop their IFPS ORD and IOC plans. These plans will be coming out in draft form in the near future. Pete Manousos also attended the IFPS Methodology Workshop. He heard a request for HPC to produce high-resolution medium-range grids. This is something the ISST will have to follow up on.